

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/642,260
Response filed July 5, 2005
Reply to OA dated April 4, 2005

REMARKS:

Claims 1-3 and 5-13 are currently being considered, of which claim 7 has been amended herein. Claims 4, 14, and 15 have been canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer as to their subject matter.

The Examiner has allowed claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 8-13.

Claims 4 and 7 stand objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claim 7, as amended, depends from claim 1 or 2. Claim 4 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as to its subject matter.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that this objection should be withdrawn.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over USP 5,760,952 (**Koetke**).

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over **Koetke** in view of USP 5,627,613 (**Kaneko**).

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Claims 14 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as to their subject matter.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, all claims currently being considered are believed to be in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due now or in the future with respect to this application, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,
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